

Appln. No. 10/600,211
Amendment dated May 23, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 24, 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporated the phosphines and nitrogen-phosphorus bonded compounds set forth in original claims 4 and 5. Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled along with claims 2, 3 and 16-19.

Claim 15 has been rewritten to incorporate the same phosphines and nitrogen-phosphorus bonded compounds set forth in the cancelled claims 18 and 19. Claims 20-25 now depend on rewritten claim 15 and are also limited to the use of these same compounds.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Heller or Domeniconi et al. can not be maintained since neither one of these references discloses any one of the phosphine or nitrogen-phosphorus bonded compounds now set forth in the claim.

For the same reasons, claims 1, 6-15 and 20-25 are believed to be patentable over Matsufuji et al. under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Matsufuji et al. also fail to disclose any one of the phosphine or nitrogen-phosphorus bonded compounds now set forth in these claims. These compounds are structurally unrelated to

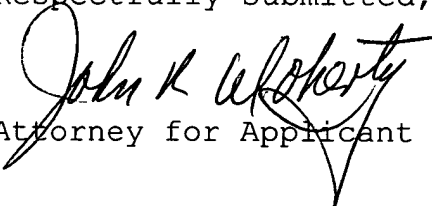
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the N-containing organic compounds disclosed by Matsufji et al.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully asked.

In view of the above, an action allowing all of the claims now in this application and passing this case onto issue is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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